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Mayor Susan Kluttz to Deliver Opening Message during Bobby Jackson Summer Basketball League Banquet on Saturday

Jackson Summer League to Begin Championship Tournament this Thursday

Salisbury, NC_July 16, 2008 – Salisbury Mayor Susan Kluttz will deliver the opening address during the Bobby Jackson Summer Basketball League Banquet, held at the Salisbury Civic Center, Saturday, July 19 at 4 pm. NBA Star and Salisbury-native Bobby Jackson will be in attendance at the Saturday afternoon event, which is one of many festivities planned this week for league attendees. Kentucky Fried Chicken and Sonic Restaurant have provided local sponsorships for the upcoming banquet.

The City of Salisbury has partnered with the Bobby Jackson athletic program to provide local coeds, 6th grade through high school, with a positive summer opportunity. The league offers a constructive venue to gain knowledge of basketball skills, receive coaching on career and educational decisions, acquire social etiquette, and develop character traits, while enjoying positive social interaction. Livingstone College and Hall Gym have provided the sites for the five week youth league, which concludes this Saturday with a capstone graduation banquet.

Championship games for the league will take place on Thursday, July 17 at Hall Gym, 1400 W. Bank Street and games are open to the public. A Girls' Championship game will be played at 6:30 pm, with Boys' Jr. High and Boys' Sr. High games, played at 7:30 and 8:30 pm, respectively. An etiquette course will be provided for league participants on Friday.

Mayor Kluttz shares, "The Bobby Jackson League has provided a strong counterpart to our Salisbury-Rowan United Community Action Agenda, established through citizen feedback provided at June 2007 Summit. The basketball program incorporates a number of the eight areas identified in the Action Agenda, including recreation, mentoring and tutoring, faith community involvement and community education and awareness. We are grateful to Bobby Jackson for caring about our young people and showing them, by example, the importance of giving back to their community. He not only provides the major funding for this league, as well as the basketball camp, but makes personal appearances here to inspire and motivate them to make the right choices. The City is proud to have partnered with this league which has offered a positive summer opportunity for local youth."

For more information regarding the Bobby Jackson Summer Basketball League, please contact Coach Andrew Mitchell at andrewmitchell55@carolina.rr.com or call (704) 267-1122 or (980) 234-8044 for more information.

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